



WISCONSIN REGULATORY DIGEST

A Publication of the
PHYSICAL THERAPISTS AFFILIATED CREDENTIALING BOARD

Volume 5, No. 1

APRIL, 2000

New Rules: Where Are They?

Yes, the PTACB has promulgated new rules regulating supervision of non-licensed personnel. These rules are currently going through the required Administrative Rules process. They will be published in *The Regulatory Digest* and/or *PT Connections* as soon as they are finalized.

THE WISCONSIN PHYSICAL THERAPISTS AFFILIATED CREDENTIALING BOARD

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Executive Staff:

Marlene A. Cummings, Secretary
William J. Conway, Deputy Secretary
Myra Shelton, Executive Assistant

Wanted: PT To Serve On Physical Therapists Affiliated Credentialing Board

TERM OF SERVICE: Four Years

RESPONSIBILITIES – Promote the general welfare of the residents of Wisconsin by:

- Overseeing the issuance and regulation of licenses to practice physical therapy;
- Promulgating rules relative to the practice of physical therapy;
- Determining standards of education and training for physical therapy;
- Promoting understanding of the relationship between physical therapy and the general welfare of the state.

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COMMITMENT:

- One half to one full day in Madison, 7 times per year (6 meetings and one inservice day) plus prep time for meetings and some (minimal) phone calls and other assignments between meetings. Expenses, including overnight lodging if needed the night before a meeting, for the PTACB meetings are paid by the state of Wisconsin.
- The PTACB is a member of the Federation on State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT). The FSBPT meets twice per year at different locations within the Continental USA. Each PTACB member is expected to attend at least one FSBPT meeting during his or her four-year term. Expenses for attendance at these meetings are paid by the FSBPT.

Opportunities:

- Networking with physical therapists and other health care professionals on state and national levels;
- Learning about the governance of physical therapy and other health care professions on state and national levels;
- Shaping the future of physical therapy.

To apply for an appointment to the PTACB, send your resume and a letter of intent to:

**Governor Tommy Thompson
P.O. Box 7863
Madison, Wisconsin 53707**

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Department of Regulation and Licensing Expands Credential Verification Services

The Department of Regulation and Licensing has added a feature at the department's web site (<http://www.drl.state.wi.us>) which will allow employers and members of the public to verify the status of professional credentials held by nearly 280,000 individuals.

Once the department's web site is accessed, users may click on "Credential Holder Query" and they will gain access to the department's credential data base where they can verify whether an individual holds a current license in any of the professions regulated by the department.

"Giving employers and consumers the ability to directly access this information on the Internet makes it easier for the public to verify whether a person is entitled to practice a profession in Wisconsin," Secretary Marlene Cummings said. "It will also be an effective deterrent to efforts by any individuals to successfully misrepresent their credential status since anyone with a computer and internet access can quickly verify whether the credential is actually held by that individual," Cummings added.

Disciplines

SUSAN M. MENGELING, P.T.
SUN PRAIRIE WI EDUCATION

Provided physical therapy to a patient in approximately 1987 and had no other contacts with this patient prior to December 1990. In December of 1990, March 1991 and April 1991 again saw the patient. As a result of those professional contacts, they developed a personal, nonprofessional relationship, which began in January of 1992 and lasted until June of 1992. Effective 11/2/99. Secs. 448.02(3), 448.57(f)(f), Stats. Case #LS9911021PHT

DANIEL P. LAWRENCE, P.T.
MADISON WI SUSPEND ONE YEAR
Engaged in a romantic and sexual relationship with an individual while she was his patient and immediately following the physical therapist-patient relationship. Effective 9/15/99. Sec. 448.57(2)(h), Stats. PT 7.02(8) Case #LS9909152PHT

PHYSICAL THERAPISTS AFFILIATED CREDENTIALING BOARD MEETINGS

DATE	ROOM
May 2, 2000	Room 179A
June 27, 2000	Room 179A
September 8, 2000	Room 179A
November 16, 2000	Room 180

Questions from the Field

1. Can a physical therapist issue a written excuse to take a patient/client off work, or give a written release for the employee to return to work?

The statutes and administrative code related to the practice of physical therapy are silent on this subject. Therefore, these regulations do not prohibit the practice. There is, however, at least one provision of the Wisconsin Statutes that is somewhat related to the issue. The family or medical leave act, found at sec. 103.10 of the Wisconsin Statutes, establishes that an employee who has been employed more than 52 consecutive weeks and who worked for the employer for at least 1,000 hours during the preceding 52-week period is entitled to up to two weeks of medical leave upon providing proper notice to the employer. If an employee requests medical leave, the employer may require the employee to provide certification, issued by the health care provider of the employee, attesting to the employee's medical condition. "Health care provider" is defined at sec. 146.81, Stats., to include nurses, chiropractors, physician assist-ants, dentists, physicians, and physical therapists, among others.

Since the law recognizes physical therapists as legally competent to attest to an employee's health status, it may be concluded that a physical therapist should be considered qualified to establish (for conditions falling within the scope of practice of physical therapy) whether an employee should be excused from work, and whether the employee may return to work.

Department of Regulation and Licensing
Physical Therapists Affiliated Credentialing Board
P.O. Box 8935
Madison, WI 53708-8935

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

REGULATORY DIGEST

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
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Permit No. 1369

Telephone Directory

Automated Phone System for the Health Professions: (608) 266-2811

- Press 1 Request Application
- Press 2 Status of a Pending Application
- Press 3 Complaint Filing Information
- Press 4 Verifying Current Status of a Credential Holder
- Press 5 Name or Address Change
Need a Duplicate License
Request a Letter of Good Standing
- Press 6 Repeat Menu Choices

Fax Number

(608) 261-7083

Verifications

All requests for verification of license status must be in writing. There is no charge for this service.

Endorsements

Requests for endorsements to other states must be in writing. The cost is \$10. Please make check or money order payable to the Department of Regulation and Licensing.

Digest on Web Site

December 1997, August 1998, June 1999

Visit the Department's Web Site

<http://badger.state.wi.us/agencies/drl/>
Send comments to dorl@drl.state.wi.us

Wisconsin Statutes and Code

Copies of the Physical Therapists Affiliated Credentialing Board Statutes and Administrative Code can be ordered from the Department. Include your name, address, county and a check payable to the Department of Regulation and Licensing in the amount of \$5.28. The latest edition is dated August, 1999.

Change of Name or Address?

Please photocopy the mailing label of this digest, make changes in name or address, and return it to the Department. Confirmation of changes are not automatically provided.

WIS. STATS. S. 440.11 ALLOWS FOR A \$50 PENALTY TO BE IMPOSED WHEN CHANGES ARE NOT REPORTED WITHIN 30 DAYS.

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